

Town Clerk

Conservation Commission Regular Meeting Minutes 2-11-2013 1/7

Town of Vernon
Conservation Commission
Minutes – Regular Meeting
Monday, February 11, 2013, 7:00 P.M.
Council Chambers, 3rd Floor, 14 Park Place
Rockville/Vernon, CT

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VERNON TOWN CLERK
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1. Call to Order & roll call

- ◆ Meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.
- ◆ Regular Members Present: Thomas Ouellette, C. Ryan Goad, Julie Clay and H. Russell Kunz.
- ◆ Alternate Members Present: None
- ◆ Staff Present: Shaun Gately, Economic Development Coordinator
- ◆ Recording Secretary: James Krupinski

2. Administrative Actions

- ◆ Logan Senack introduced himself and reviewed his qualifications with the commission.

A. Acceptance of Minutes of December 17, 2012 & January 14, 2013

- ◆ H Russel Kunz, seconded by C Ryan Goad moved a Motion to approve the minutes of December 17, 2012 as amended. Motion carried. Logan Senack abstained.
 - Page 2 – Aquatic Invasives: Thomas Ouellette indicated that he had participated in the invasive plants in local water bodies and reviewed the proposed mitigation plans.
 - Page 2 – Website, education & public outreach: Move bullet #2 to the end of bullet #1
- ◆ Logan Senack, seconded by Julie Clay moved a Motion to approve the minutes of January 14, 2013. Motion carried unanimously.
 - Page 1 – Vice-Chairman: Bullet #2 should indicate Vice-Chairman instead of Chairman.
 - Page 3 – Bullet #5: Holistic Health Fair will be held on the 1st weekend in April at the Vernon Center Middle School.
 - Page 3 – Speaker Forum for Commissioners & Public: CACIWIC – Resource Inventory & Wildlife assessment

B. Communications

- ◆ Connecticut Land Use Seminar – March 16, 2013 @ Wesleyan University.
- ◆ CACIWIC Handbook
- ◆ CT Land Conservation Conference on March 23, 2013.
- ◆ CAUSE on March 21, 2013
- ◆ Received invitation to attend the Inland Wetlands Commission meeting on January 21, 2013.
 - C. Ryan Goad reviewed the discussion that took place at the IWC meeting relative to a Cease and Correct Order issued against the property owner of 60 South Frontage Road.
 - ◆ Craig Perry, Inland Wetlands Agent reviewed the property based on a complaint and identified ATV use in the wetland areas.

- ◆ **Permission had been given to three residents from Bamforth Road to utilize the property.**
- ◆ **Conclusion was that individuals had trespassed on the property and caused the damage to the wetlands.**
- ◆ **Cease and Correct Order was removed by the commission because not intent to cause damage could be shown.**
- **Thomas Ouellette indicated that he had spoken to Craig Perry, Inland Wetlands Agent and found that no additional complaints had been received.**
- C. Application related Correspondences: IWC & PZC applications:
 - ◆ **None**
- D. Letters sent by Conservation Commission last month
 - ◆ **Donation of \$300.00 was sent to CLCC**
- E. Acceptance of Annual Meeting Schedule
 - ◆ **Adopted December 17, 2012**
- F. Organizational Consideration
 - ◆ **Thomas Ouellette presented possible changes to the current Agenda format (Attachment)**
 - ◆ **Discussion took place regarding presented changes and format.**
 - **C. Ryan Goad suggested adding Open Space to §5 of the proposed Agenda format as well.**
 - ◆ **Discussion took place regarding statutory authority given in §7-131(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes.**
 - ◆ **Suggested revisions will be integrated and presented at the next meeting.**
- 3. Plan of Conservation & Development
 - ◆ **No update on Legislative Hearings by OPM for responses by the Town on the State POCD. Waiting to hear back from Dan Worley on inclusion of remaining properties.**
- 4. Low Impact Development (LID)
 - ◆ **Public Hearing should take place during March.**
 - ◆ **Stormwater Manual should be supplied for adoption by the Planning and Zoning Commission during March as well.**
- 5. Aquatic Invasives.
 - ◆ **Town Funded activity list.**
 - **Upper Bolton Lake Survey was conducted by George Knockline.**
 - **Water Quality Survey is scheduled for April.**
 - **One (1) Day surveys for invasive species:**
 - **Tankerhoosen Lake**
 - **Walker Reservoir**
 - **Valley Falls Pond**
 - **Walker Reservoir East needs review for milfoil recurrence and algae.**
 - ◆ **Thomas Ouellette attended a meeting at the Police Department relative to the Bolton Lakes.**
 - **Sewer Project was discussed.**

- **Met Kim Welch – Lake Commissioner for Lower Bolton Lake.**
- **Spoke with Holly MacDonald and had suggested to the Friends of Bolton Lakes for a possible Regional Meeting. Suggested that attendance by commissioners be advisory and not member based.**
- **Pam Sawyer is attempting to secure funding for the Lake Surveys.**

6. Scenic Roads

- ◆ **None updates**

7. Web site, education & public outreach

- ◆ **Upcoming HealthFest in April:**
 - **Need to verify space location and amount with Jon Roe.**
 - **C. Ryan Goad indicated that he would prepare the PowerPoint slideshow for the Fair.**
 - **American Farmland Booklets**
 - **Images for Scenic Roads or signs.**
 - **C. Ryan Goad would prepare a CD of photos for running presentation.**
 - **Logan Senack indicated he would supply Invasive Species flyers.**
 - **Ann Letendre would supply a Open Space Map.**
- ◆ **Speakers Forum – possible length of up to three (3) hours with a break for refreshments.**
 - **Possible start to it on Earth Day**
 - **Presentation on Non-Point Pollution.**
 - **Rain Garden Designs and uses.**
 - **Strong Farm- Discussion of future plans and goals.**

8. Talcottville Mill Progress on Wetlands Remediation

- ◆ **No Updates**

9. Open Space Process/Zone

- ◆ **Strong Farm:**
 - **Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP)**
 - **Need mapping of the Agricultural soils.**
 - **Need to request a letter of support from the Mayor.**
 - **Ann Letendre indicated that she would draft a letter for the Mayor to sign.**
 - **Request should be made by both the Conservation Commission (CC) and the Open Space Task Force (OSTF).**

10. Vernal Pools

- ◆ **Bamforth Road property owner has required twenty-four (24) hour notice for access.**
 - **Hold Harmless Agreement has been sent to the Association for review and approval.**
- ◆ **Thomas Ouellette had spoken to the resident with the deeded Right-of-Way access back to the Town property as a possible secondary access point.**

11. Tankerhoosen Watershed implementation Plan

- ◆ **Discussion took place regarding the stage of the Plan Implementation and items that have been completed. (Attachment)**

12. Other goals

- ◆ **Bolton Lakes Environmental Review Team Report – Still waiting on last report on fisheries**

- ◆ **Tulip Tree Trail – Runs from Bolton to Valleys Falls Park**
 - **Required to be monitored on an annual basis and a report sent to the State.**

13. Adjournment

- ◆ **H. Russell Kunz, seconded by Logan Senack moved a Motion to Adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.**
- ◆ **Meeting adjourned at 8:57 P.M.**

James Krupienski
Recording Secretary

Attachment 1

Conservation Commission
Proposed Revised Agenda
2/11/13

1. Call to Order
2. Administrative Actions
3. Commission Development
 - A. Education and training
 - B. Meeting/conference opportunities
4. Resources Assessment and Strategy
 - A. Watersheds/Aquatic Resources
 - i. Bolton Lakes
 - a. ERT Status
 - ii. Aquatic Invasives
 - iii. Vernal Pools
 - B. Public Lands
 - i. Open Space Program
 - ii. Terrestrial Invasives
 - C. Tank Watershed Implementation Plan
5. Municipal/State Programs
 - A. POCDs
 - i. Vernon
 - ii. State
 - B. LID
 - C. Scenic Roads
6. Public Outreach and Education
 - A. Website/Facebook
 - B. Municipal agency interaction
 - C. Inter-town agency interaction
 - D. Community projects
7. Other Goals
8. Adjournment

Attachment 2



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6.5 Plan Implementation

6.5.1 Schedule and Milestones

Table 6-13 is a proposed implementation schedule, including actions/milestones, anticipated timeline, products, and evaluation criteria. This table should be revised as necessary to reflect future changes to the watershed plan and implementation activities.

Table 6-13. Proposed Implementation Schedule

Actions	Lead Entity	Timeline	Products	Evaluation Criteria
Objective 1: Build a Foundation for Implementing the Plan				
Form coalition	Friends of HRLP	1-2 yrs	Funding sources and grant applications	Grant applications submitted
Adopt plan	Towns			
Identify potential funding sources	Coalition			
Submit grant applications	Coalition/Towns			
Objective 2: Enhance In-Stream and Riparian Habitat				
Conduct fish passage assessments	Coalition	1-2 yrs	Assessment findings	
Revise local stream crossing & stormwater design standards	Towns	1-2 yrs	Revised standards	
Belding Pond Dam removal feasibility evaluation	NRCS, DEP	1-2 yrs	Evaluation findings	
Conduct aquatic invasive species study	Coalition, Towns	1-2 yrs	Study findings	
Priority stream restoration projects	Coalition, Towns	2-10 yrs	Completed projects	Photos, # sites, WQ monitoring
Objective 3: Protect/Restore Riparian Buffers				
Priority riparian buffer restoration projects	Coalition	2-10 yrs	Completed projects	Photos, # sites, WQ monitoring
Adopt stream buffer regulations, pending enabling legislation	Towns	2-4 yrs	Adopted regulations	
Revise riparian buffer recommendations (Tolland)	Towns	1-2 yrs	Revised recommend.	
Objective 4: Identify and Eliminate Illicit Discharges				
Targeted illicit discharge investigations	Towns	1-2 yrs	Investigation findings	# discharges removed.
Implement municipal IDDE programs	Towns	2-4 yrs		
Priority stream cleanup efforts	Coalition	1-2 yrs	Trash removed	# cleanups
Develop education/outreach materials	Coalition, Towns	1-2 yrs	Educational materials	Number of participants & feedback
Deliver education/outreach to the public	Coalition, Towns	2-4 yrs		
Objective 5: Residential Management Practices				
Increase watershed stewardship signage in residential areas	Towns	2-4 yrs	New signage	# signs
Encourage disconnection of rooftop runoff	Towns	2-4 yrs	Rain barrels, disconnections	# participants
Develop education/outreach materials	Coalition, Towns	1-2 yrs	Educational materials	Number of participants & feedback
Deliver education/outreach to the public	Coalition, Towns	2-4 yrs		
Objective 6: Municipal and Business Management Practices				
Review municipal facility compliance	Towns	1-2 yrs	Review findings	Improved BMPs



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Table 6-13. Proposed Implementation Schedule

Actions	Lead Entity	Timeline	Products	Evaluation Criteria
Improve municipal stormwater management programs	Towns	1-4 yrs	Revised SWMPs	
Implement street sweeping and catch basin cleaning	Towns, DOT	2-4 yrs	Sweeping and CB cleaning	Frequency
Develop education/outreach materials	Coalition, Towns	1-2 yrs	Educational materials	Number of participants & feedback
Deliver education/outreach to the public	Coalition, Towns	2-4 yrs		
Increase watershed stewardship signage in commercial areas	Towns	2-4 yrs	New signage	# signs
Objective 7: Implement Water Quality Monitoring Program				
Develop and implement long-term monitoring program	Coalition	1-2 yrs	Monitoring data, report	Review results with agencies
LID demonstration monitoring	Coalition	2-4 yrs		
Objective 8: Protect Open Space				
Priority land acquisitions	Towns	1-4 yrs	Protected land	#sites/ acres protected
Continue to implement municipal open space plans	Towns	1-4 yrs		
Seek alternative funding sources for open space acquisition	Towns	1-4 yrs		
Promote use of open space through trail maps and events	Coalition	1-2 yrs	New maps and events sponsored	# events
Develop and implement invasive species management plan	Coalition	2-4 yrs	Management plan	
Objective 9: Promote LID and Sustainable Site Design				
Monitor effectiveness of LID regulations (Tolland)	Town	1-4 yrs	LID measures installed	Photos, WQ monitoring, 3 rd party reviews
Revise Inland Wetland regulations for consistency (Tolland)	Town	1-2 yrs	Revised regulations	
Develop and implement new stormwater/LID regulations (Vernon)	Town	1-2 yrs	New SW/LID regulations, revised existing regulations	
Form advisory committee				
Develop Town stormwater/LID manual and/or guidance				
Update existing zoning, subdivision, wetlands regulations				
Priority stormwater retrofits	Coalition	2-10 yrs	Completed projects	Photos, # sites, WQ monitoring
Incorporate LID into Town projects	Town	2-4 yrs	LID measures installed	Photos, WQ monitoring
LID demonstration projects (green roads, public works, schools)	Town	1-2 yrs		
Develop education/outreach materials	Coalition, Towns	1-2 yrs	Educational materials	Number of participants & feedback
Deliver education/outreach to the public	Coalition, Towns	2-4 yrs		
Objective 10: Assess Additional Subwatersheds				
Perform stream and upland assessments	Coalition	1-2 yrs	Inventory findings	# projects identified